

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 20, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510-6025
Dear Chairman Inouye:

We write to you today to request that Road Home and other hurricane recovery funding not be used as a revenue offset when the Senate considers H.R. 4899, the FY2010 Supplemental Appropriations Act. These funds are vital to the on-going rebuilding effort in South Louisiana, especially as we approach the five year anniversaries of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

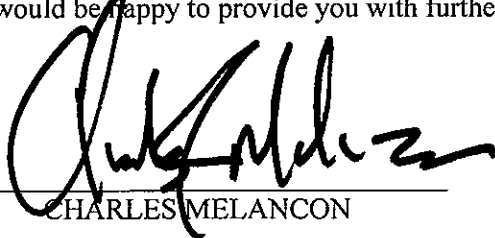
H.R. 4899 rescinds \$400 million in Road Home funding, and these funds are desperately needed to continue the vibrant rebuilding happening in our state. More than \$9.4 billion has been spent on assisting more than 127,000 homeowners to reoccupy homes.

The bill also rescinds \$312 million appropriated in 2008 to facilitate long-term recovery from Hurricanes Gustav and Ike and the Midwest floods. These funds were directed to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the creation of the Disaster Recovery Enhancement Fund, a grant program to aid states in enacting forward-thinking land-use plans, buyout programs, building codes, and other mitigation measures. Congress began rescinding these funds in advance of the June 30, 2010 deadline HUD set for States to submit action plans, effectively cancelling the program before it began.

The damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita was unlike any seen in the U.S. in recent memory. These hurricanes left six out of 10 homes in New Orleans uninhabitable. Should Congress rescind these remaining funds, as many as 19,000 homeowners statewide could be forced to return to un-restored and blighted homes as many low-to-moderate income families have no other means to rebuild. Further there are also families who fell victim to fraudulent contractors or found toxic Chinese drywall after their homes were rebuilt. These families are still struggling to fully recover.

We urge you to leave this funding in place as the Senate considers H.R. 4899, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, to ensure that our residents receive the benefits that have been promised to them. We would be happy to provide you with further information on this program and remaining funds.

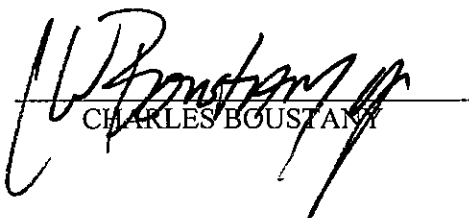
Sincerely,



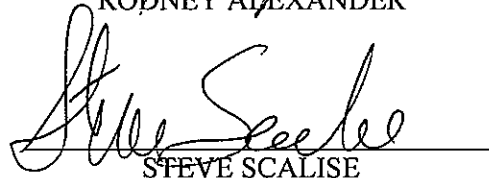
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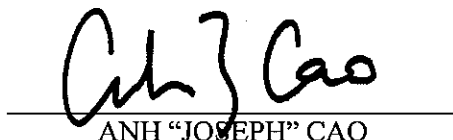
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STEVE SCALISE



ANH "JOSEPH" CAO